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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year

1944

BY

JOHN REID GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

31st December, 1944

ATTENBOROUGH, J., Wessington.
BALLANCE, F., Beighton.
BARRS, Alfred Josiah, Heath.
BIRDS, J., Brook Lynn, Holymoorside.
BECKETT, Alfred, Ridgeway Ward, Eckington (Resigned November, 1944).
BRADLEY, Frederick (Senior), Stretton.
BRIERLEY, James, Shirland and Higham Ward.
BOOT, H., Charnwood Villas, Main Road, Morton.
CLEMENTS, John William, J.P., North Wingfield.
COOK, L., 18, John Street, Eckington.
ELLIS, J., West Hill Lane, Grassmoor.
FENSOME, Sidney Thomas, J.P., Pilsley.
GASCOYNE, P., The Croft, North Wingfield.
GOODLAD, John, Barlow.
HARDY, William George, Wingerworth.
HARGREAVES, A., Vernon Rise, Grassmoor.
HOLMES, J. T., Brimington.
KAY, Robert, Holmesfield.
KENNING, C. B., Lady, J.P., C.C., Ashover.
LAMB, Thomas, Somerset House, Calow.
LATHAM, William Leeke, Rev., Morton.
MARSHALL, H., Sheffield Road, Killamarsh.
MAW, H. A., 24, Fox Lane, Frecheville.
PEAT, Edwin, J.P., C.A., Mosborough Ward, Eckington.
PIKE, R. G., 99, Thornbridge Drive, Frecheville.
RANKIN, A. H. (Dr.), Main Road, Renishaw.
RENWICK, John, Ridgeway. (Appointed December, 1944).
RIGGOTT, G. A., Over Newbold, Brampton Ward.
SALES, Samuel, Tupton.
SHARMAN, Walter, Unstone.
STATON, James, J.P., C.C., Beighton.
STIRLING, William, Temple Normanton.
SWINDELL, Joseph, Killamarsh.
SYMONDS, E., Mrs., The Moorlands, Manor Road, Brimington.
TURBUTT, Richard Babington (Colonel), J.P., Brackenfield.
WOODBINE, Wilfred Walter, Sutton-cum-Duckmanton.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Chairman, Sanitary Committee :
J. W. CLEMENTS, Esq., J.P.

Chairman, Housing and Property Committee :
S. SALES, Esq., J.P.

Medical Officer of Health :
JOHN R. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., (St. And.)., D.P.H. (St. And.).

Senior Sanitary Inspectors :

T. W. BINNS, Cert.S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector.

F. WATERFALL, Cert.S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector.

Sanitary Inspectors :

W. E. BOLTON, Cert.S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector.

V. C. QUINN, Cert.S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector (Resigned 22nd July, 1944).

T. E. SNAPE, Cert. S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector. (Appointed 1st November, 1944).

Clerks :

Mrs. D. BALL. (Resigned 21st July, 1944).

Miss L. MORTON. (Appointed 3rd July, 1944).

H. H. WATTS.

Miss M. THICKETT.

Mrs. A. CLARKE.

Miss J. SCARLE. (Appointed 3rd July, 1944).

Mrs. A. M. BLADEN. (Appointed 25th September, 1944).

Mrs. B. NICOL. (Appointed 2nd October, 1944).

ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In presenting my Annual Report for 1944, it is to be hoped that it will be the last report of a year taken up wholly by total war, and that we can look forward to getting into our full programme of social and health progress so grievously interrupted in 1939.

Although everyone is impatient to begin a post-war programme of work, it does seem that the transition from a period in which the nation was engaged in a total war effort to that of a full peace-time effort will be gradual and just as it took about 3 years to reach the peak of war production, a similar period is likely to elapse till the full tide of peace-time work can be attained.

During the past five war years we have had no serious epidemics and health generally has been good.

However, judging from past history, epidemics seem to come as an aftermath of war, so that one cannot look to freedom from some type of epidemic with complete confidence.

We in our position as an island have escaped many epidemics especially those with a reservoir of infection in the far east, as the incubation period of all the diseases was shorter than the period of travel to this country, and therefore contacts, etc., could be kept under close observation. Air travel, however, has nullified our isolation in this respect, and the inevitable development of this means of transport increases greatly the risk of epidemics. Perhaps this is an unduly pessimistic picture as developments in medical science have given us potent weapons of defence against certain diseases. For instance, from information available it does seem that epidemics of typhus fever can be controlled by use of a substance known as D.D.T., and it is not impossible that further discoveries will enable us to combat other infections as well.

In conclusion, I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council for their help and encouragement, the staff of the Health Department for their loyal co-operation during the past trying years, and my colleagues on the R.D.C. who have so kindly furnished me with information used in compiling this report.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN R. GRAHAM,
Medical Officer of Health.

Health Offices,
Rural Council House,
Chesterfield.

Statistics

Area of District	69,139 acres
Population. Registrar General's Figure	70,150
No. of inhabited houses	19,997
Rateable Value	£288,967
Estimated product of Penny Rate for year ending 31st March, 1945	£1,040

Live Births.	M.	F.
Total	878	722
Legitimate	838	689
Illegitimate	40	33
Still Births.	M.	F.
Total	30	20
Legitimate	28	18
Illegitimate	2	2
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.	M.	F.
Total	28	30
Legitimate	26	28
Illegitimate	2	2
Deaths, all ages.	M.	F.
Total	337	301

Birth Rate. 22.26 per 1,000 civilian population.

Infantile Mortality rate :

Total	36.25 per 1,000 live births.
Legitimate	36.08 per 1,000 legitimate births.
Illegitimate	54.8 per 1,000 illegitimate births.

Death Rate per 1,000 living	9.09
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 births (live and still)	1.21
Deaths from Measles, all ages	Nil
Whooping Cough, all ages	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	5

The vital statistics for the year are very satisfactory.

The birth-rate is the highest of which I have records, and the infantile mortality is the second lowest ; death rate all ages is also the lowest on record.

Two deaths were recorded from maternal causes, the same number as the previous year. The only figure which does not compare favourably with previous years is the 5 deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years). One was recorded in 1942 and none in 1940. The five deaths represent a death rate of 3.1 per 1,000 live births, which contrasts favourably with the rates for the country as a whole, see table 7.

Social Conditions

The general standard of social conditions, apart from housing, shows little change. The increased earning capacity and improved economic position of the working class population as a whole seems to have counterbalanced the shortage of housing in maintaining a good standard of health.

Throughout the schools in the area the provision of "school dinners" has become almost universal, and though sufficient time has not elapsed to show the full benefits, an improvement in the well-being of health of the children can be confidently expected.

The heavy industries, i.e., coal and iron, form the main sources of employment for the majority of the workers along with agriculture (mostly milk production), and a little quarrying.

Some of the areas adjacent to the City of Sheffield and the Borough of Chesterfield were prior to the war being developed as housing estates, and fast becoming dormitories for these two towns.

Though it is perhaps a premature observation, it is to be regretted that there are few signs of any light or subsidiary industries being started in any part of the area.

HOUSING.

During the year 1944, it has been evident that if the housing needs of our people are to be met with planning must be well ahead.

With this end in view, a sub-committee of the Council visited many prototype houses, some of the pre-fabricated type, and others of more orthodox construction.

The Council have already had reports in detail on all types. It can, I feel, be safely said that the sub-committee were pleasantly surprised with many of the prefabricated type. By this remark I do not mean that they considered them ideal houses ; but the appearance was much better than they expected. With regard to the internal fittings and general arrangements it was felt that these were a distinct advance on pre 1939 standards.

It is interesting to note that the "new" type of construction used in many prefabricated houses, namely, steelwork frame and clodding, has nothing new except the materials used. The common construction in the time of Henry VII and VIII consisted of a wooden framework (oak for preference), the walls were " fill ups " made of clay and osiers, or brick.

Personally, I feel that there are great possibilities in the new types of construction. We have had stone, bricks and mortar houses built for the past 300 years, and I feel that many people look askance and condemn the new types of construction simply because they are new. They have not yet had much time to expand and develop. One has only to remember the crude box-like inefficient and expensive vehicle which was called a motor car in 1900 and compare it with any car to-day to realize that in the future this type of construction may supply the nation with attractive and healthy homes at a reasonable cost.

"TEMPORARY" HOUSES.

When the erection of the temporary houses was first mooted by the Government, the project was at first not well received by local authorities. All these temporary houses are of the pre-fabricated type and again I think I am safe in saying that the sub-committee had a more favourable impression after inspection of the various types than they had formed from Press descriptions. One benefit which should be derived from the standardisation insisted on by the Ministry of Works is that the output of such dwellings should be high and quick erection is absolutely essential.

One criticism is that the temporary house will not comfortably house a family of more than 3 or 4.

This may be true, but a larger family has a much better chance of leading a happy existence in a house used by them alone even if somewhat crowded than they have when forced to share a house with another family. The Peckham Pioneer Health Centre has, I think, already shown that *effective functioning* and positive health are not individual characteristics, but depend on a good family life. The provision of the temporary house will, it is hoped, give many young couples a chance to start a family life at the beginning of their life together with much more chance of its success than if they had to share accommodation.

It is pleasing to record that at the last meeting of the housing committee in the year 1944, it was announced that 200 temporary houses had been allocated to the Rural District, and delivery would be early in 1945.

One problem in housing which has been prominently before the Council in 1944 is the incorrigibly bad tenants. Fortunately, the families involved are few in number, but nevertheless they present a serious problem. If such people could be completely isolated and their children not allowed to go to school they might be left to look after themselves. Unfortunately, these people in such a community as ours are in close contact with neighbours, their children have to attend school, and as members of a community they are a danger. This type gives the opponents of new housing their platform cry of the "tenant makes the slum." I can see no solution to the problem other than placing such folk in special houses and force them to obey strict rules of cleanliness, failure to carry out the rules being subject to dire penalties. In other words if such folk cannot live decently when given the opportunity, certain civic rights should be withheld from them.

It must be added that in practically every case of families of this type, one or both of the parents are of a low standard mentally, and therefore control such as I have indicated is not an interference with the rights of ordinary citizenship, but a Public Health measure.

In my report, 1943, I stressed the danger of the caravan and shanty town. It is not out of place to again lay emphasis on this danger.

Quite a few applications have been received to erect temporary dwellings, or as some of the applicants put it—a week-end bungalow. Unless such dwellings are provided with all the amenities, i.e., water supply with H. & C. internally, and connected to a sewer, acceptance of any plans for a licence even on a yearly basis is to be deplored. The original applicants may in good faith give undertakings as to the limited use of such places, but other people may gain possession and immediately conditions deteriorate. While one may argue that powers are provided to stop such conditions, once a family is established in a hut, etc., the only practical method of alleviating the conditions is to re-house the family.

While our problems in the R.D.C. are serious and pressing with regard to overcrowding, bad properties, etc., it is well just to consider the problem of the whole country. Below is an extract from the journal "Local Government Service," of November, 1944, headed " The Problem of London " :—

" Imagine that every single building in York, Reading, Halifax, Ipswich and Northampton has been razed to the ground and all their inhabitants left homeless. Imagine that, in addition, every house in Newport, Oxford, Wallasey, Grimsby, Rochdale, Burnley, West Bromwich, Wigan, Exeter and Bath has been so badly damaged that nobody can live in it without extensive repair.

On top of that, imagine that every house in every one of the sixty biggest urban districts in England and Wales has lost some of its windows, slates or ceilings. Imagine, finally, that this situation exists at the beginning of a sixth winter of war, and that there is one workman for every ten houses to do the repairs.

That would be regarded as a national disaster, calling for the full mobilisation of every national resource to the aid of its victims.

But is it? For the picture is no imaginary one. It is an exact parallel of the position of London to-day, as revealed in published figures; of London alone, ignoring the plight of many other equally battered towns and villages of Southern England."

This is a grim picture and makes one realise that this district may not be able to get ahead with re-building as speedily as one would wish.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Over 90% of the houses in the district have a piped supply. The main supplier is the North East Derbyshire Joint Water Committee, but over 3,000 premises situated adjacent to the Borough of Chesterfield are supplied by the Chesterfield and Bolsover Joint Water Board.

The piped water supply has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological examinations are made by the suppliers of raw and treated waters.

Samples of water from houses are also taken by the Health Department. The results of the examinations are interchanged by all departments concerned.

Where the water at the source has a plumbo solvent action, it is treated with calcium hydrate to raise the p.H. value to about 8. Daily tests are made to ascertain the p.H. value and the dose of calcium hydrate adjusted so that at no time is an acid water passed on to the consumer.

When unsatisfactory reports have been received of the bacteriological examination of samples, the chlorine dose has been increased.

There are no houses in the area covered by the North East Derbyshire Joint Committee supplied from stand pipes, but five in the area of supply of the Chesterfield and Bolsover Joint Board are served by stand pipes.

Of the 1,522 premises not on the service of the two main suppliers, a few have a supply from adjacent authorities. The majority, however, derive their supply from wells and springs, some having water piped to the houses.

A scheme is under consideration to supply part of the parish of Brampton, and the cost illustrates the difficulties that the Rural Districts have to face in providing a piped supply to all premises in their area.

The scheme will supply 80 premises, and the estimated cost of mains, etc., is £8,000 or £100 per house.

Annual running costs, including capital repayment, are estimated at £580/2/0 per annum.

Bacteriological Examination of supplies.

Authority.	Total samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Doubtful.	Remarks.
North-East Derbyshire Joint Committee ..	277	237	37	3	15 unsatisfactory samples from a source not then in supply.
Chesterfield and Bolsover Joint Board ..	29	29	—	—	
Public Health Dept. Chesterfield R.D.C. ..	47	40	6	1	1 unsatisfactory sample from a well.
	353	306	43	4	

	No. of Houses	SUPPLY FROM N.E.D.J.W.C.	C.&B.J.B.	Other Sources.
Ashover	635	243	—	392
Barlow	247	183	—	64
Beighton	3172	3137	—	35†
Brackenfield	71	28	—	43
Brampton	286	—	137	149
Brimington	1693	—	1690	3
Calow	356	297	5	54
Eckington	3896	3641	—	255*
Hasland	868	—	865	3
Heath	406	392	—	14
Holmesfield	294	222	—	72
Killamarsh	1250	1235	—	15
Morton	364	352	—	12
N. Wingfield	1651	1648	—	3
Pilsley	720	704	—	16
Shirland & Higham	1083	1035	—	48
Stretton	172	143	—	29
Sutton-c.-Duckmanton	428	306	19	103
Temple Normanton	166	166	—	—
Tupton	594	591	—	3
Unstone	561	554	—	7
Walton	543	—	499	44
Wessington	172	121	—	51
Wingerworth	369	210	52	107
	19997	15208	3267	1522

SUMMARY.

Number of inhabited houses in Chesterfield R.D.	19997
The North East Derbyshire Joint Water Committee supply	15208
The Chesterfield and Bolsover Water Board supply	3267
Total supplied by the 2 authorities	18475

Total houses having supplies other than the two above
1522 — 7.6%

*186 houses in this parish are supplied by Sheffield Corporation Waterworks.

†8 houses in this parish supplied by Sheffield Corporation Waterworks.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year 1944 :—	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	722
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1157
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	—
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	—
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	130
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	229
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	192
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
  (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 6
  (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order 4

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
  (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made —
  (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.
  (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year —
    (2) Number of persons dwelling therein —
    (3) Number of families dwelling therein —
  (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year —
  (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year —
    (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases —
  (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding —

5. Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas, 1944 —

TABLE 1.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

	No. in use at end of 1944.
Privy Middens	3,773
Pail Closets	789
Water Closets	15,569
Trough and Slop Water Closets	47
	20,178

CONVERSIONS OF WATER CLOSETS IN 1944.

Privy Middens	25
Pail Closets	—
Total	25

During the year, 40 visits have been made to Food Premises by the department Inspectors for the purpose of condemning the following quantities of unsound foodstuffs which have been surrendered and destroyed.

	Tins.
Milk	56
Salmon	21
Pilchards	19
Plums	3
Damsons in Syrup	2
Marmalade	3
Grapefruit Marmalade	4
Raspberry Jam	6
Beans	27
Peas	5
Soup	5
Hot Pot	1
Vegetable in Gravy	1
Steak	6
Steak and Kidney Pudding	1
Beef Loaf	2
Beef (Minced)	2¾
Prem.	3
Total	167¾

	Lbs.
Pig's Carcase, Organs and Offal	378
Beef	683
Brisket Beef	12
Pork (frozen)	70
Canadian Pork Loaf	6
Luncheon Meat	31¾
Pork Luncheon Meat	2½
Pork Sausage Meat	28
Sausage	1½
Tongue	6
Chopped Ham	27¾
Prem.	¾
Spam	¾
Kam	¾
Ham ..	27¼
Ham (shoulder)	15
Ham (cooked)	28
Ham (uncooked)	14
Bacon	55¼
Bacon (shoulder)	28
Bacon (smoked)	20½

	Lbs.
Cheese	38
Butter	25¼
Sugar	8
Rice	100
Sultanas (Australian)	60
Prunes	2
Total	1670

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS, 1944.

Table showing the number of specimens sent from the Rural District, and entered at the County Laboratory, Derby.

	Pos.	Neg.
Enterica :—		
Typhoid, Para-typhoid A. & B.	—	16
Gaertner, Dysentery, etc.	3	11
Diphtheria	6	66
Phthisis	9	87
Water	—	—
Milk :—		
T.B. Inoculation. Sent from Ministry of Agriculture	2	12
T. B. Inoculation	—	1
Routine Samples— Methylene Blue Test	—	3
Routine Samples— Bacterial Count	—	7
Routine Samples— Bacillus Coli.	1	4
Routine Samples— Miscellaneous	2	34
Totals	23	241

TABLE 2.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORIUM.

CASES.			Vision Un-Impaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Notified	Treated.					
	At home.	In Hospital				
3	3	—	3	—	—	—

TABLE 3.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	Total Number Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	426	382	—
Diphtheria	40	35	1
Enteric Fever	2	—	—
Puerperal Fever Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	5	5	2
Pneumonia	138	—	31
Erysipelas	51	—	—
Polio-myelitis	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	3	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Undulant Fever	—	—	—
Measles	224	6	—
Whooping Cough	112	1	2
Dysentery	3	—	—

TABLE 4.

TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR 1944.

Age Period.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year					—	—	1	—
1 and over	—		1	2	—	2	1	1
5 and over	—	—	3	1	—		2	
15 and over	3	8	3	1	1	2	—	1
25 and over	1	5	2	1	—	4	—	1
35 and over	1	5	2	—	1	2	—	—
45 and over	4	1	—	1	3	1	—	—
55 and over	9		—	1	2	—	—	—
65 and over	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	21	19	11	7	7	11	4	3
	NOT PRIMARY.				NOT NOTIFIED.			
Cases included above		—	—	—	—	—	—	—

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Enteric Fever.

Two cases of paratyphoid fever were notified during the year. There were no deaths.

Scarlet Fever.

This area in common with the rest of the North Midlands experienced an epidemic during the year. 426 cases were notified during the year. While there were no deaths the disease seemed to be of a more severe type than has been experienced during the past years.

During 1943 there were 279 notifications.

Diphtheria.

40 cases were notified with 1 death. This is a slight decrease on the figures for the previous year.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Five cases were notified as against 13 the previous year, there was one death from this disease compared to four the previous year.

Measles.

224 cases were notified compared to 1,256 in 1943.

Again no deaths were registered.

Whooping Cough.

This disease also showed a drop in the number of notifications 112 as against 183 in the previous year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS.

	Age under 5 years.	Age 5 years and over, but under 15	Total
Number of children (including temporary residents) who completed the full course of immunisation in the Authority's area between 1st January and 31st December, 1944 ...	165	84	249

TABLE 5.

TREATMENT CENTRE, POOLSBROOK.

No. of cases, 2,890.

Scabies.

	Adults.	5-15.	Under 5.	Total.
Chesterfield R.D.C.	759	408	198	1365
Clay Cross U.D.C.	91	45	25	161
Clowne R.D.C.	231	108	65	404
Dronfield U.D.C.	20	13	5	38
Staveley U.D.C.	231	132	47	410
Totals	1332	706	340	2378

Head Lice.

	Adults.	5-15.	Under 5.	Total.
Chesterfield R.D.C.	18 (15)	169 (146)	20 (18)	207 (179)
Clay Cross U.D.C.		5 (5)		5 (5)
Clowne R.D.C.	5 (4)	39 (35)	3 (1)	47 (40)
Dronfield U.D.C.		8 (7)	1 (0)	9 (7)
Staveley U.D.C.	5. (4)	57 (45)	3 (2)	65 (51)
Totals	28 (23)	278 (238)	27 (21)	333 (282)

Scabies with verminous heads.

	Adults.	5-15.	Under 5.	Total.
Chesterfield R.D.C.	18 (15)	115 (90)	18 (15)	151 (120)
Clay Cross U.D.C.	2 (2)	10 (10)	3 (2)	15 (14)
Clowne R.D.C.	2 (2)	27 (22)	4 (4)	33 (28)
Dronfield U.D.C.		1 (1)		1 (1)
Staveley U.D.C.	7 (4)	33 (27)	9 (8)	49 (39)
Totals	29 (23)	186 (150)	34 (29)	249 (202)

ADD 45 Miscellaneous cases.
134 Diagnosis NOT confirmed.

179

20 cases were evacuees.

INFESTATION. Personal.

Treatment Centre, Poolsbrook.

During the year a total of 2,890 patients attended the centre for treatment for scabies or verminous heads.

A table of the cases is appended.

As a routine, all patients attending for treatment for scabies are thoroughly examined for head and body infestation. Of the 2,378 patients attending for treatment for scabies, 249 had infested heads, i.e., just over 10%. In the age group 5-15 the percentage of scabies with verminous heads rises to 26.3%.

Two interesting investigations were carried out on the personal cleanliness of persons suffering from scabies and those with lousy heads.

(1) SCABIES.

A group of 869 individuals suffering from scabies were noted as to their personal cleanliness.

785 could be classed as clean, 64 dirty, and 10 very dirty.

In terms of family groups 200 were examined and 17 were dirty, i.e., 8.6%.

(2) VERMINOUS HEADS.

In this investigation combings from a group of 121 persons were examined and in 90 they were found to be clean. In other words 82.6% of cases, heads were not "dirty" in the sense that filth was present but were infested with lice.

Another investigation completed was on the use of medicaments used by patients themselves to treat scabies. Out of 1,797 cases under investigation, 1,099 had used some type of preparation entirely useless for curing scabies. 617 patients had used only one type and 482 had used more than one type. It was interesting to note that the most widely used were those preparations much advertised as "cure-alls" for skin troubles.

The most arduous work done, was on the suggestion and directed by Dr. Kenneth Mellanby of the Sorby Research Institute, Sheffield, to ascertain the average louse population in heads. These investigations are now complete, but the results have not yet been co-ordinated and studied. It is hoped they will be published during 1945.

TABLE 6.

TABLE SHOWING BIRTH, DEATH RATES AND INFANT MORTALITY FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS.

Year.	Birth Rate per 1,000 Living	Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Infant Death Rate per 1,000 live births.
1944	22.26	9.09	36.25
1943	20.14	11.14	42.9
1942	18.97	9.65	30.9
1941	18.58	10.96	46
1940	16.85	11.63	46.97
1939	19.11	10.76	47.2
1938	17.37	10.58	42.55
1937	14.59	10.89	60.28
1936	14.49	11.53	88.68
1935	14.65	11.82	62.62
1934	16.17	12.46	59.75

TABLE 7.

BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1944. PROVISIONAL FIGURES BASED ON WEEKLY AND QUARTERLY RETURNS.

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County	Chesterfield R.D.C.
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population				
Births—					
Live	17.6	20.3	20.9	15.0	**22.26**
Still	0.50	0.64	0.61	0.42	**0.71**
Deaths—					
All Causes	11.6	13.7	12.4	15.7	**9.09**
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04	**0.02**
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.01	**0.01**
Influenza	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.08	**0.12**
Smallpox	0.00	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	**0.00**
Notifications—					
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	**0.02**
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.06	**0.07**
Scarlet Fever	2.40	2.41	2.67	1.57	**6.07**
Whooping Cough	2.49	2.49	2.29	2.90	**1.59**
Diphtheria	0.58	0.67	0.69	0.31	**0.57**
Erysipelas	0.29	0.32	0.28	0.37	**0.72**
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
Measles	4.16	4.51	3.94	2.98	**3.12**
Pneumonia	0.97	1.13	0.82	0.93	**1.82**
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	46	52	44	61	**36**
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 yrs. of age	4.8	7.3	4.4	10.1	**3.1**
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still). Notifications :—				
Puerperal Fever	10.34	13.13	9.25	3.61	**1.21**
Puerperal Pyrexia				14.14	

TABLE 8.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

	No. on Register.	Inspections made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances abated with or without notice.	Visits.
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	580	878	9	269	—
Bakehouses	38	22	—	5	—
*Slaughter-houses ..	40	61	—	—	—
Offensive Trades ..	1		—	—	—
Common Lodging Houses	1	2	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	660	963	9	274	—

* None in use, only 2 knackers premises.

TABLE 9.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Summary of the Work of the Sanitary Department.

	No. of inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.	No. of Notices Served.		No. of Nuisances abated with or without notice.
		Informal.	Legal.	
Closets and Ashpits—				
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (not for conversion) ..	151	112	1	78
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s	342	11	—	14
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s	3	—	—	—
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets ..	—	—	—	—
Cesspools (Cleansing) ..	17	9	—	7
Defective Water Closets..	59	38	—	25
Provision of additional W.C.'s	69	27	—	32
Provision of Portable Ashbins	267	221	—	365
Dirty Closets	5	—	—	2
Drainage—				
No disconnection of waste pipe	3	2	—	1
Defective waste pipe, Traps, Inlets & Drains	467	136	6	155
Drains obstructed ..	211	148	—	112
Other Defects—				
Paving of Courts and Yards	212	13	—	19
Roofs, Eaves-Spouts and Downspouts	1021	345	29	265
Sinks	38	16	—	38
Insufficient Ventilation ..	12	10	2	3
Windows	149	81	1	57
Dampness	179	58	7	87
Water in Cellars ..	58	2	—	3
Water Supply	235	26	1	19
Overcrowding	10	7	—	5
Foul Condition of Houses	75	20	—	24
Offensive Accumulations	22	11	—	2
Animals improperly kept	15	13	—	6
Pigsties	19	11	—	5
Smoke Nuisances ..	4	1	—	1
Urinals	8	8	—	1
Caravans	149	8	—	6
Nuisances not specified above	1806	133	—	256
TOTAL	5606	1467	47	1588

No. of visits to Infectious Disease cases, 476.

TABLE 10.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Inspections of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of Inspections. (2)	Number of Written Notices. (3)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	134	9	1
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	—	—	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	134	9	1

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

Net repairing Nil.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

576 visits have been made in connection with rat infestation and approximately 11,500 rats have been destroyed.

Cyanogas, Rodine, Red Squill, Barium Carbonate Compound, Phosphide and Sausage Rusk baits are used for rat destruction and refuse tips, sewerage works and other premises are treated with these poisons.

PETROLEUM ACTS.

There are 116 petroleum stores and 5 calcium of carbide stores in the district. These have been visited and found to be satisfactory.

The income derived from the issue of these licences is £78/5/-, and the maximum storage capacity is 194,194 gallons of petroleum and 3,038 lbs. of carbide.

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